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THE CHRONICLE & DIRECTORY  
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SETTLEMENTS, COCHIN CHINA, SIAM, &c.  
FOR 1882.

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former; whilst the latter includes the NEW  
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TREATY between RUSSIA and CHINA, the  
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PLAN OF THE CITY OF CANTON,

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**The Daily Press.**

The departure of the Pacific Mail Company's  
steamer City of Tokio has been postponed to  
Wednesday, the 24th instant.

A severe and prolonged thunderstorm passed  
over this city yesterday morning. It com-  
menced about 4 a.m. and for more than an hour  
the lightning was almost continuous, while the  
rain came down in sheets. The storm did not  
subsist until about seven o'clock.

From Messrs. Thos. Watson & Co.'s Tea  
Report, dated Calcutta, 15th April, we learn  
that the tea from the Island of Ceylon to Britain  
from 1st January to 31st March was 5,583,305  
cwt., an increase with 7,416,930 lbs. in the same  
period last year, showing an increase of over  
a million pounds.

The Straits Times says that consequent on the  
representations of His Excellency Sir Fraser D.  
Wald, Her Majesty's Government have done  
all they can to induce the Chinese to let them  
have a more suitable place, the most preferable  
being the North of Sumatra. Some weeks ago, Yen-  
tzy Fair stated that Mr. Kennedy had been nominated  
for the post.

The Singapore Times of the 10th inst. says:—  
"Mr. Wardrop, Mr. Hodgeson, and Mr. Baker,  
the English engineers of the Marquess of Cen-  
tury's Leed XI, have been engaged to  
survey the mail steamer. Their passage  
money, in each case, has been paid by the Co-  
lonial Government, on their binding themselves  
to refund the same when they recover their claims  
in respect of such passage money from the owners  
of the steamer."

Signor Chirini's Circus and Menagerie, who  
understand, left Manila by the Diamond for the  
port on Tuesday, and will in all probability,  
be here some time to day. The operators of the  
menagerie, however, have been compelled  
to leave the steamer, having been made  
to pay a sum of money, and the menagerie  
is now in the hands of the steamer's  
agent, Mr. Wilson, the advance agent of the  
Company. The ring for the performances is now completed,  
and the illumination by gas of the whole pavilion  
has been satisfactorily finished. Seats may be  
secured and tickets obtained at a booking office  
to be opened the enclosure.

The question of gas versus the electric light  
seems likely to be decided in the near future,  
as the city is still enlightened by either means. Do-  
lunio Benzon, concessionary of the framework  
about to be laid at Manila, has applied to the  
Minister for the Colonies for a concession to  
gas within three years from the grant of the  
concession. The Minister has forwarded the  
application to the municipality of Manila for  
the consideration of the Government. The  
expenditure, pay a heavy tax of double the  
percentage levied on foreigners, and yet re-  
tain most of the Chinese trading bonds and  
a very large and increasing native popula-  
tion. For, namely fifty years.

tion. The British Concession at Tientsin  
being in harmony with the French, the im-  
aginary danger which so frightened the  
Shanghaikins does not there exist. The  
wharfage dues worked well in Shanghai  
while they were in force, and we cannot but  
think that it is a wise step to introduce  
them at Tientsin. The object to be  
gained, the formation of roads into the  
country, is assuredly a good one, and will  
well repay the small cost, not only as afford-  
ing a means of recreation as much wanted  
by foreigners at the Northern port, but will  
likewise increase trade by giving greater  
facilities for the transit of goods. The argu-  
ment of one of our Shanghai contemporaries  
that the land-renters of Tientsin have no  
right to make Manchester and Bombay  
pay for their roads, is, we think, rather  
far-fetched. We opine that Manchester  
and Bombay will be considerable gainers,  
but even if it were not so, every com-  
munity has a right to tax its own trade.  
The Shanghai paper also speaks of it as an  
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## EXTRACTS.

I must not think of these; and, tried yet strong,  
I know the love that lurks in all delight.  
The love of them—land in the blue Heaven's height,  
And in the darkest gloom of a song.  
Or just beyond the sweetest thoughts that throng  
The breast, the thoughts of the world hidden yet bright;  
But it must never, never come in sight;  
I must stop short of them the long while day.  
But when sleep comes to close each difficult day,  
When night gives pause to the long watch I keep,  
'And all my hours I could lose apart,  
Must still my will was restraint laid away.  
With the first dream that comes with the first sleep  
I run, I run, I am galloped to the heart.

—ALICE MARYELL.

## HOLLAND AND GERMANY.

The independence of Holland and Belgium is to come to an end in the year 1900. So says a pamphlet which has just been extensively circulated in Holland in imitation of the famous English precedent set by the "Battle of Dunkirk." The author of this effusion gives a most circumstantial account of the whole campaign which is to follow.

The House rose. Peter went away direct to the office of the paper, the *Morning Chronicle*, for which he was employed, while Morgan, in perfect easiness at the eulogium which had been pronounced on the virtues of the potates of "old Ireland" ran in breathless haste to a public-house, where the reporters, who should have been on duty for the other morning papers, were assembled, and having communicated to them the important speech which they had by their absence missed, they asked him to read over his notes to them, which, of course, Morgan readily did. They copied them verbatim, and not being at the time in the best possible condition for judging of the probability of Mr. Wilberforce delivering such a speech, they referred to their respective offices, and actually gave a copy of it into the hands of the printer. Next morning it appeared in all the "papers" except the one with

which Peter was connected. The sensation and surprise it created in town exceeded everything. Had it only appeared in one or two papers, persons of ordinary intelligence must at once have concluded that there was some mistake about the matter. But its appearing in all of the journals except one, and that one at the time not so well known as other periods of its history, the fact forced, as it were, people to the conclusion that it must have been actually spoken.

In the evening the House met as usual, and Mr. Wilberforce, on the Speaker taking the chair, rose and begged indulgence of the House for a few minutes to a matter which concerned it as well as himself personally. "Every honourable member," he observed, "has doubtless read the speech which I am, represented as having made on the previous night. With the permission of the House, I will read it." Here the honourable member read the speech amid deafening roar of laughter. "I can assure honourable members that no one could have read this speech with more surprise than I myself did this morning when I found the papers on my breakfast table. For myself, personally, I care but little about it, though if I were capable of uttering such nonsense as is here put into my mouth, it is high time that instead of being a member of this House, I were an inmate of some lunatic asylum. It is for the dignity of this House that I feel concerned, for honourable members were capable of listening to such nonsense, assuming me capable of giving expression to it, it were much more appropriate to call this a place for the performance of farces than a place for the legislative deliberations of the representatives of the nation."

It was proposed by some members to call the printers of the different papers in which the speech appeared to the bar of the House for a breach of privilege, but the master was eventually allowed to drop. Mr. Wilberforce himself was in favour of this course. He treated the matter in a playful manner, to the great gratification of the House.

## BECKFORD AND THE MATCH.

## MAKING DUCHESS.

There is a capital story told in connection with Beckford and the Duchess of Gordon. This man of his enormous wealth should remain a widower, wait to the mother world a most heinous offence, and every lure was cast out by gorgon mamas and sire daughters to capture such a splendid victim; but our hero was proof against all temptation. Most famous of all the match-making mothers of the period was her Grace of Gordon, a resolute woman who cared nothing for results, when a prize for one of her daughters might be gained, and under whose manipulation again was a weak creature indeed. Beckford was in the habit of paying a short visit to London out of service during the year, but finding that he always contrived to avoid her and not daring, the Duchess resolved to pay an uninvited visit to Fonthill and attack the lion in his den. Made aware of her coming, Beckford gave instructions to his confidential servant to see that the lady was sumptuously entertained—as long as she chose to remain, and then retired to his private apartments.

When the Queen arrived, she was informed that Mr. Beckford was engaged studying some new books that he had just received, and that it was more than any advantage do to disturb him. The next day, and the next, similar excuses were tendered to her, requesting to see the host; every attention was paid her, everything could desire was at her command—except the master. During eight days this maternal fortune-hunter fretted and fumed and resorted to every device her imagination could suggest to get at her proposed victim, but all in vain; and at the end of that time she was compelled to beat an ignominious retreat.—*Godeve's Magazine*.

## AN EXTRAORDINARY NEWSPAPER REPORT.

A debate took place in the House of Commons at the beginning of the present century on the question of the employment of English labourers, and being unusually bold, a reporter of the name of Morgan O'Sullivan, who had a short time before been imported from Tipperary, said to the only other reporter in the gallery at the time that he felt very dryish, and would be after taking a little bit of a nap if his coadjutor would be sure to tell him afterwards if anything important took place.

The other, whose name was Peter Finnerty, promised, and Morgan was soon asleep. After an hour had elapsed, Morgan opened his eyes, and, looking about, asked his friend if anything had happened.

"To be sure there has," said the other; "and something very important, too."

"What about?" asked Morgan, eagerly.

"About the virtues of the Irish potato," Morgan.

"Was it the Irish potato you said, Peter?"

"The Irish potato; and a most eloquent speech it was."

"Thunder and lightning, and me asleep! Why didn't you stir me up?"

"It's all the same. I'll read it from my

note-book, and you can take it down as I go on," said Peter.

"That I will," said Morgan, with an energy which strangely contrasted with the previous languor of his manner. "Now, then, Peter my boy."

Peter, affecting to read from his note-book, commenced thus:

"The honourable member said it."

"Och, be aisy a little bit!" interrupted Morgan. "Who was the honourable member?"

Peter, hesitating for a moment, "Was it his name you asked? Sure it was Mr. Wilberforce."

"Mr. Wilberforce! Bedad, and me asleep."

Peter resumed, "Mr. Wilberforce said that it always appeared to him, beyond all question, that the great cause why the Irish labourers were, as a body, so much stronger, and capable of enduring so much greater physical fatigue, than the English, was the surpassing virtue of their potato." And

"Peter, my dear fellow," exclaimed Morgan, at the mention of the Irish potato, his countenance lighting with ecstasy as he spoke: "Peter, my dear fellow, this is so important that we must give it in the first person."

"Do you think so?" said Peter.

"Thrath and I do," answered Morgan.

"Very well," said the other.

Peter then resumed, "And I have no doubt," continued Mr. Wilberforce, "that had it been my lot to be born and reared in—"

"Did the member say reared?" interrupted Morgan exultingly, evidently associating him with the growth of potatoes in his own blessed country."

"Faith, and he did say reared," observed the other, who then resumed, "Had it been my lot to be born and reared in Ireland, where my food would have principally consisted of the potato—that most nutritious and substantial root—instead of being the

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